

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 MCT-01
SY-05 USSS-00 EB-08 FAA-00 DOTE-00 IO-13 JUSE-00 /096 W
-----161656Z 065553 /41

R 161542Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0829
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

UNCLAS VIENNA 1260

BURSELS AND LONDON PASS FAA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, EAIR, DA, PO, AU
SUBJECT: HIJACKER OF POLISH AIRLINER SENTENCED

REF: VIENNA 76 9163

1. ANDRZEJ JAROSLAW KARASINSKI, 20-YEAR-OLD POLE WHO HIJACKED
POLISH AIRLINER NOVEMBER 4, 1976, WAS FOUND GUILTY OF AIR
PIRACY UNDER PAR 185 OF AUSTRIAN CRIMINAL CODE AND SENTENCED
FEBRUARY 15 TO FOUR YEARS IMPRISONMENT. AUSTRIAN AUTHORITIES
INDICATED THAT, UPON COMPLETION OF SENTENCE, KARASINSKI WOULD
NOT BE EXTRADICTED TO POLAND.

2. IN COURT, KARASINSKI SAID HE FLED POLAND TO AVOID
SERVICE IN ARMY IN ACCORDANCE WITH PERSONAL
COMMITMENT MADE WHEN POLISH FORCES SUPPRESSED WORKERS IN
1970 DISORDERS. HE CLAIMED POLISH AGENTS FRAMED HIM IN
DENMARK AND ONLY MEANS OF PRESERVING HIS FREEDOM WAS TO
HIJACK PLANE UPON WHICH DANISH POLICE PLACED HIM. HE
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SAID EMMIGRATION TO AUSTRALIA WAS HIS GOAL.

3. PROSECUTOR ASKED MAXIMUM 10-YEAR SENTENCE BUT COURT,
APPARENTLY RESPONDING TO DEFENSE ARGUMENT THAT
KARASINSKI HAD DEFENDED HIS PERSONAL FREEDOM WITH MILDEST
SORT OF HIJACKING (HE WAS ARMED WITH FALSE GRENADE
FASHIONED FROM BREAD, RAZOR HANDLE AND SHOE BLACK) AND

SHOULD NOT BE PUNISHED AS SEVERELY AS NECESSARY FOR
INTERNATIONAL TERRORISTS, GAVE HIM LESSER SENTENCE.

4. LOCAL PRESS REFLECTED AT LENGTH UPON SINCERITY OF
KARASINSKI'S CLAIMS OF POLITICAL MOTIVATION VERSUS
OTHERS THAT DEFENDENT WAS PETTY CRIMINAL SEEKING WAY
OUT; HOWEVER, KARASINSKI'S ATTRACTIVE APPEARANCE AND
PROFESSION THAT RELIGIOUS FAITH HAD AIDED HIS ESCAPE
RESULTED IN MEDIA REPORTS GENERALLY SYMPATHETIC TO
HIM. BUCHANAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, TRIALS, COURT DECISIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Subject: HIJACKER OF POLISH AIRLINER SENTENCED
TAGS: PINS, EAIR, DA, PO, AU, (KARASINSKI, ANDREJ JAROSLAW)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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